

of the chairman of the committee on the currency, in place of the comprehensive authority conveyed by the order of the House of Delegates, it will be perceived that eight of the fifteen subjects of enquiry, embraced in the first, second and third queries, require a reference to the discount accounts of individuals, denominated by the cashier "private."

The president and directors of the Western Bank have replied to the note addressed to them by the undersigned, by which it appears that they decline to assent to the mode of examination proposed, for reasons therein fully set forth, and their communication is hereto appended, for the information of the House of Delegates.

The undersigned will only remark in conclusion, that the instructions of your honorable body, to your commissioners, being general and not restricted to particulars, they hope it will be conceived to be as little in accordance with their duty, as it is with their inclination to avail themselves of the permission offered, to examine the accounts of the directors and officers of the Western Bank.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN WHITE,
WM. BAKER,

Commissioners.

WESTERN BANK,
Baltimore, February 6, 1840.

Messrs. John White and Wm. Baker, Commissioners.

Gentlemen,—Your communication of this date, in which you express the opinion that it will be necessary for the due execution of the duty assigned you by the honorable the House of Delegates, to have submitted to your inspection all the books and documents recording the transactions of the bank, except the cash accounts of individuals, has been received and submitted to the board of directors.

In reply, I am directed to state that it will afford the officers and directors of the bank great pleasure to render every facility in the examination proposed to be made, and to lay before you the books and documents, recording the general transactions of the bank, with the exception of such as would expose the accounts of private individuals.

It will be manifest that such an exception is altogether proper, and is expressly provided for in the fourth fundamental article of the charter, in the words following, to wit:

"The Treasurer of the Western Shore for the time being, shall be furnished once every year, or oftener if required, with statements of the amount of the capital stock of the said corporation, and of the debts due to and from the same, of the monies deposited therein, of the notes in circulation, of the cash on hand and